

REMARKS

The application has been amended to adapt the specification and claims of the underlying international application to U.S. practice. Claims 1 to 8, as presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/EP2003/009915 have been canceled without prejudice, and new claims 9 to 23 have been added.

Applicant believes that no fees are due as a result of this amendment. In the event of a fee discrepancy, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By:   
William C. Gehris, Reg. No. 38,156

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC  
485 Seventh Avenue - 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10018  
(212) 736-1940